

Rural Revival Minutes - August 3, 2015

Members Present: Andre Eisenbeis, **Tim Eisenbeis**, Larry Eisenbeis, **Lorraine Ensz**, **Dennis Jurkovich**, **S. Roy Kaufman**, **John Koch**, **Todd Koerner**, **Dennis Lehmann**, Dee Millar, **Lyle Preheim**, Nate Preheim, Glen Wollman,

Minutes of the July 6 meeting were reviewed and approved. Approval moved by Dee Millar, seconded by Dennis Jurkovich and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. No Report. July Balance was \$685.94.

Farmer's Market. Dennis Lehmann reported that crowds continue to be good and that 3 new vendors had been added. As a strategy for expansion, Todd Koerner suggested adding another day. John Koch shared what he had learned through discussions with the Freeman Community Development Corporation (FCDC) Board. The Farmer's Market actually came under the FCDC as a matter of convenience (FCDC was the conduit for a grant.) and as a general appreciation to the agricultural community (this project took the place of an annual agriculture appreciation day. General discussion on the relationship with the Freeman Community Development Foundation was entertained. It was discovered that current FCDC officers didn't understand that the Farmer's Market has its own checking account or that it was sustaining this project through the charging of fees. The FCDC is open to a discussion on increased support, but it was noted that FCDC is a membership organization which generally only funds on-going activities beneficial to its members. John indicated that he would look at some USDA grant programs that might help.

Glenn Wollman shared that National Farmers Market week is coming up and recommended the group look at the South Dakota Specialty Products Association website.

Butcher Shop/Buffalo Enterprise. Nate Preheim reported that the first harvest had gone well and the Courier had done an excellent feature story on the operation. Nate has been contacted by Ian Brown (Canada) about including the ranch in a photo project he is working on. There is still interest in getting Gary Block to a meeting to talk about butchering, but no progress so far.

Pasture Walk – A pasture walk will be held Saturday, August 15 from 9 am to 12 pm. Three locations are planned to be a part of the tour (Kyle Waltner, Chris Eisenbeis, Stan Ortman). Event Coordinator is Tim Eisenbeis.

Community Garden - Todd Koerner reported that the gardens are producing very well and they are now sharing substantial amounts of food with the Yankton Area Banquet.

Cover Crops Tour – The tour was tentatively set for September 19 from 9 am to noon.

Preheim Feedlot, LLC – Lorraine Ensz shared concerns about the proposed 5,000 head feedlot being proposed in the Silver Lake area and encouraged members to attend the public hearing scheduled for Monday, August 3 in Olivet.

Arts/Earth Center - John Koch reported that John Peterson, head of the Amana Society (Amana Colonies), will be in Freeman August 25-26.

Adjournment – Moved by Lyle Preheim, Second by Larry Eisenbeis, accepted.

Respectfully Submitted – John Koch, Secretary